

Indiana Brownfield Redevelopment Project (NIBRP). NIBRP is an organization designed to promote the clean-up of polluted urban sites and to return these sites to productive use, while bringing increased tax revenue to our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these fine individuals for their dedication to justice and for their commitment to the people of Northwest Indiana.

COMMENDING EUNICE WALLER ON
RECEIVING THE LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM
THE NAACP OF CONNECTICUT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Eunice Waller upon receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAACP of Connecticut. Eunice Waller is an extraordinary American who has dedicated her life to educating young people and improving race relations.

Ms. Waller has spent the better part of the past thirty years serving citizens in Waterford and New London, CT. She was a teacher at the Clark Lane Middle School for 26 years working to ensure that thousands of young people received the best possible education. She served as a member of the board of education and city council in New London as well as mayor of the city.

Eunice Waller has devoted her life to expanding opportunity for all citizens of southeastern Connecticut. She has played a guiding role in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Trust Fund. The fund provides scholarships to help minority students to attend college. Thanks to her efforts, the gates to our nation's colleges have been opened to deserving students regardless of income.

Mr. Speaker, I have included an editorial from the New London Day which eloquently describes Eunice Waller's many contributions to improving the lives of citizens across southeastern Connecticut. I commend her for her service and join the NAACP in honoring her life's work.

[From the New London Day, Nov. 2, 1999]

EUNICE M. WALLER'S SERVICE

Eunice M. Waller, a Waterford teacher for 26 years, served on the New London Board of Education and City Council and has been mayor of the city, but her greatest achievements as an involved citizen have been her encouragement of children to improve their lives and adults to get involved in their communities. She has been especially effective working with minority citizens.

All people, young and adult, need encouragement or an exhortation to work hard and achieve goals. Those remarks remind people—often during periods that seem discouraging—to press forward and get beyond the problem of the moment.

Eunice Waller has helped countless people with those simple acts of kindness. She has also served as a conscience for people who interacted with her. Leadership by example matters because it signals others that the

words coming out of a person's mouth are not rhetoric, but rather a reflection of the earnest efforts that person is making every day in life. Eunice Waller has led by example.

Her public life has served to complement her other activities, such as her 20 years of service to the Mitchell College board and her founding role in the National Council of Negro Women. Countless young people remember her best for the guidance and assertiveness she has given the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Trust Fund. This outstanding local scholarship service has helped many minority young people from the region go on to colleges and successful careers in a variety of fields.

So it was especially fitting that the state NAACP honored Mrs. Waller with a lifetime achievement award at a prayer breakfast Sunday in New Haven. The Acronym NAACP stands for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, but it really stands for equality and progress in race relations in this country.

In the past and still today, Eunice Waller monitors the results of that effort. Because of people like her, race relations continue to improve in this nation and many people live happier, more productive lives.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP
BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT
ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, since its creation, the Medicare program has protected millions of beneficiaries from poverty by helping to pay for medical services. It has improved access to care for the elderly and many disabled Americans and is certainly among the key policy successes of this century.

Still, as the health care market evolves in this country, and as beneficiaries grow older and their health care needs change, Medicare must also evolve. In enacting the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), the Congress took important steps to begin this evolution and to help extend the program's financial viability.

Unfortunately, many of the reforms Congress prescribed in the BBA have been implemented poorly, and sometimes counter to Congressional intent. While I continue to support the budget priorities established in the BBA, I believe Congress must act to correct the mistakes and misjudgments that now threaten the viability of many health care providers. For this reason, I support H.R. 3075, the Medicare Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999.

In particular I am pleased the Committee has included specific provisions that will benefit Medicare providers and patients in Southern Arizona.

This bill: Strengthens rural hospitals, provides additional funds for physical therapy and speech therapy, expands the number of critical access hospitals, increases funding for teaching hospitals, extends Medicare's coverage of immunosuppressive drugs, improves the State Children's Health Insurance Program

(SCHIP), and continues the Medicare Community Nursing Organization demonstration project, otherwise known as the Healthy Seniors program in Tucson.

In total, this bill provides an additional \$11.8 billion for Medicare providers and patients. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the bill.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT J. FLAVIN

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a long time friend and Rochester Telephone employee, Robert J. Flavin, who passed away on Friday in Rochester, New York. Bob served as the President of Local 1170 of the Communications Workers of America for 36 years.

I was honored to attend his memorial service yesterday as this great labor leader and champion of the working people was remembered. As a sign of the high regard the Rochester community had for Bob, on Sunday he was given the Rochester Labor Council, AFL-CIO and United Way Community Service Award posthumously in recognition of his life's work. To further honor Bob, the organizations also announced that the award would be renamed in his memory.

Bob Flavin spent his career fighting for the rights of communications employees, helped Rochester Telephone evolve into the national telecommunications firm known as Frontier Corporation, and was instrumental in negotiating a recent labor agreement between Rochester Telephone and Local 1170. His long legacy includes ending the labor dispute between CWA and the former Rochester Telephone Corp. in 1996 and 1997 over the withdrawal of the pension plan. Recently, Bob Flavin had been particularly active in building support from the rank and file within his CWA labor organization for the now-completed merger of Frontier with the international telecommunications firm, Global Crossing Ltd.

Bob was proud of his association with and admiration of Frontier's CEO, Joseph Clayton. Mr. Clayton rode with his employees yearly in the Labor Day Parade and he and his family attended the union's events. His concern and affection for Bob during his final illness should be a model for management/labor to follow. Our pain at losing Bob is eased by knowing Bob's final years as a labor leader were his best years because of Joe Clayton.

Beyond his many professional contributions to the Rochester community, I remember in particular Bob's love of his family and his great faith. Anyone who knew Bob, knew of his love for his wife of 50 years, Carolyn, and their three sons: Michael, Pat and Timothy, who all still live in Rochester. Among the over 1,000 people who attended his funeral, both his CWA members and Global Crossing management expressed sadness at Bob's passing, and so did many community leaders with whom Bob worked. He will be deeply missed by all of us in the Rochester community.